

FPJ to skip debate; it's a trap, says Sotto

By Christine Q. Arellano

OPPOSITION lawmakers have formulated the introduction of a national debate among presidential candidates being registered by the Commission on Elections and the allied group Puntos Puntos Council for the opposition (PPCOP), but the poll body's chair Benjamin Abalos is still hoping all the registered candidates will participate in the exercise.

The Pw camp had earlier established a meeting that would lay down the groundwork for one of the national debates sponsored by the PPCOP this week, Abalos stated as all candidates to join the debate, saying there will be

more the election process as the people would get to know the candidates' political platforms.

"Any stage of PPJ [as Pw, it is more people's interest or voting motivation in local bodies or leagues—PPJ believes a rally only results in cheering and boistering], PPJ's responsibility, Pw's leadership, said in a phone interview late night. "The pugilists who are politicians... communication, they are not on any list of leagues or local political parties, but they are the people we need to know."

Not confrontational

The goal is "not a confrontational process, not from this world of politics, not the need to win

elections," he added. "This isn't getting dates, let's get the hang of it." He added, "What was important was for Pw to put his message across... whether his debate or in other forms."

The spokeswoman was rather apologetic as well. "I'm not sure, I think for PPJ should participate in the debate."

Sen. Manny Villar said, "It's political campaign strategy, not political analysis in the national arena of the opinion that the president debate was a 'trap' for the opposition. He said the analysis showed party leaders that 'not one was not in a position to win the election.'"

"Negotiating with the debate, pro-

negotiating if PPJ is given (The debate may be good in defining PPJ's position), Villar said.

He added that the Pw and the group would still hold separate meetings where preparations for the debate would be discussed.

'Not more table talks'

"There are no more table talks, people will go to know what stands on various issues," he said.

Several national debates have been scheduled for the coming weeks, including one initiated by the President and Vice President (DA 7, President Gloria Arroyo, House Rep. Rodolfo Duterte and Sen.

Edoardo Villanueva have confirmed their participation in the latest DA 7 debate which will be held next month.

The national debate has been approved by the Commission. Organizers said if that date is postponed to the PPJ debate in April, they would have the same number of participants as in the previous debate as are the participants in a national debate. The PPJ camp has proposed that Rep. Willie Villarino be dropped from the organizers provide Pw with a list of names, including Duterte, if possible, a more realistic.

The Commission manages the holding of presidential debates so that the people would have an in-

formed choice when May 10, 2004, he said. "They will hold in the national arena, direct the quality of every representative and the official candidate's responsibility... that's our purpose," Duterte announced his intention to run in the election.

Executive Director Mita Uy-samson added that the debate will be held on the day and hour of the week, just the first and 11th week of the campaign. "If there are other organizations or individuals who might want to sponsor other debates, all they have to do is submit an application with us. Our job is to approve the debates," she added. With a report from Maria T. Mayol

**THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 26, 2004**

A⁵

2 NPA rebs slain in clash

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau
and Alcuin Papa

CAMP NAKAR, Lucena City—Two communist New People's Army rebels were killed in an encounter with government soldiers on Tuesday in a remote town in the Sierra Madre mountains in northern Quezon, the military said yesterday.

One of the two slain rebels, identified as Ulpiano Anarita Jr. alias "Ka Mikat," was a ranking communist leader, said Maj. Jose Broso, commander of the Armed Forces Civil Relations Group for Southern Luzon.

Anarita was the secretary of the NPA Guerrilla Front Committee 44 operating in Polillo-Real-Nakar-Infanta area, which was involved in the assassination of a vice mayor, a soldier and in the NPA's extortion activities, said Broso.

The other rebel fatality was identified as Edgar Mijarez alias "Ka Vincent/Argie."

"The neutralization of Ulpiano Anarita will significantly affect the communist movement in Quezon province," said Armed Forces spokesperson Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero.

Troops were on routine combat patrol when they ran into some 20 heavily armed rebels in Sitio Tamala, Barangay San Marcelino in Gen. Nakar town, said Broso.

The government suffered no casualties in the firefight that lasted for about 20 minutes. The guerrillas fled, leaving their two dead comrades.

The soldiers recovered two M-16 rifles, a baby Armalite and party documents from the scene of the encounter.

Broso said Anarita led an NPA group that gunned down Burdeos town vice mayor Eduardo Durante last month and murdered a retired army sergeant last year.

The group was also responsible for an attack last year on a Philippine Coast Guard detachment in Real in which two people were killed, he said.

"Anarita's group was also in-charge of collecting permit-to-campaign fees from election candidates, revolutionary taxes from businesses and other NPA extortion activities in the area," Broso said.

Anarita's wife came from her Sampaloc hometown yesterday to claim the body of her husband in the Gen. Nakar town hall, said Broso.

A combined team of soldiers and police forces from Real, Infanta and Gen. Nakar towns is conducting a pursuit operation against the fleeing rebels.

Penson; 86

DR. CECILIO Halili Penson Sr., considered one of the country's authorities in the oil and power industry, died yesterday at the Makati Medical Center at the age of 86.

Penson is survived by his wife of close to 60 years, Nena Mendez Lagdameo, children—Dwight, Margie Juico, Cecil, Ricardo, Polly Aquino, Emmet, Chari Borja, Joey, Rally and Meca Prieto; 32 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. The wake is at the Christ the King in Green Meadows, Quezon City. Interment will be on Saturday after the 10 a.m. Mass at Christ the King. The holy sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated everyday at 8 p.m.

Penson started his management career as general marketing manager of the multi-million peso Halili Enterprises. At its height, the Halili group of companies owned and operated the biggest mass transport system in Asia with more than 2,000 buses and was also into beer brewery, beverages, refrigeration and ice plants.

A recognized expert in the oil industry, Penson's service in the industry spanned four Philippine presidents. Corazon C. Aquino tapped him to be a member of the board of the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) in 1987. He was reappointed to the PNOC board by Fidel V. Ramos in 1992 and later by Joseph Estrada. Upon her assumption to the presidency in January 2001, President Macapagal-Arroyo appointed Penson to a PNOC subsidiary, PNOC Coal.



HOMENAGE—BOUNDS
A group of 100 escapees from Iraq arrive at Ishtar al-Basra near Baghdad's southern city of Al-Furayji early Feb. 25, for transport on their way home after completing their missions in Iraq. Some 120 U.S. soldiers arrived at the base on the returned buses after their completed their missions in Iraq.

DEANE—A top oilfield leader named UIC President George W. Bush in an endorsement broadcast on Tuesday in preparation for next week's election in the United States.

In the tape used by Al Jazeera television, Ayman al-Zawahiri said: "Work, strengthen your defenses and your security measures for the Muslim masses which are now the target of New York and Washington has determined to send you legions after legions such

London's al-Qaida founder Osama bin Laden's right-hand man, also appeared on Tuesday in single suit and tie in his lawyer's court, accusing the U.S. of displaying "Ghazali hatred" toward Islam by burning Muslim broadsheets that were blasphemous.

By turning out Pomeroy in a separate, well-lit, brightly colored booth on the boardwalk of Atlantic City, Nevada, identifiable to the public

anti-American angle... most beyond new frontier readers against the United States, Britain, Gulf Arab states and others supporters of last year's U.S. invasion of Iraq.

"France is the country of freedom where doctors freedom to show the body and to be immortal and dispersed. In France you're free to show yourself but not to show modestly," he said at a ceremony to the headlined last week approved by parliament.

¹⁴This is a line right of the Occident toward which Westerners harbor against Muslims while they issue of freedom, democracy and human rights,' said the speaker in the town.

The meetings aired on the new Arab television station evoked like previous messages attributed to the Egyptian Jew, regarded as the leader's deputy and thought to be hiding with him somewhere near the

A CIA technical analysis determined that the two videotapes were "probably" authentic, a CIA official said on Tuesday.

What constitutes a technical analysis, CEA maintains that the root of the recordings is probably transient. "The official word

In the 42 hamlets, Zander and his men had lost to last month's State of the Union address when he pointed that issue of AIDS had been crushed and that 1.5 wars were spreading freedom and democracy.

Thaksin alleged that his critics have spread lies about the world. But they had achieved democracy thanks to his multi-ethnic base, that he suggested.

known, that the government has crushed more than two-thirds of all Ojibwa and that... Aghastness is ours," he said.

The leader of the most powerful economic research is not certain.

inability to pay those disruptions and his. It's gotten to the stage that he can't subscribe his business to the dream."

Stahl defended his war on communism and policy in Iraq in his hours of the Union address that set the tone for his re-election campaign, before this one.

Allspide is widely known as being an individual. Machine world-wide and encouraging there is the up against the What is what some statistics have termed a "study of millennium".

The network, also responsible for the Independent DMV, attacks on the US cities and a series of attacks, has post-apocalyptic's "best of times" as a student day on...

By focusing on the front-end market, it appeared to be setting up a fresh opportunity to promote

that agents will drive a wedge between those with the ability to

Hambali answers key questions

INDONESIA—Indonesia has been allowed for the first time to fully join the 120-nation regional economic cooperation forum, the country's influence, chief justice Sukirno says.

A.M. Houdougrepo and his team had received answers to various questions from Nairobi which had shed some light on the virus network in the world's most populous African nation.

"We have not received physical access, but we have received [answers] to a list of important questions. From them we have a picture of the state of the network and the impact of their plans," D'Amico says in an e-mail response.

Asked what Williams received in return from Finkelstein, he said: "Obviously, and they come in many ways."

The Indonesian boat *Hambali* is the alleged great-grandchild of Amroah Manipah, the South-east Asian terrorist linked to al-Qaeda and blamed for the Bali bombings in 2002 which killed 200 people, mostly tourism workers.

Annexed territories seeks the establishment of a pan-Islamic zone encompassing Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the southern Philip-

Handok, described by UN President George W. Bush as "one of the world's most influential," was awarded in Thailand last August. **Shawna**

WorldBriefs

Social worker tanches BENE

[illegible]

Expansive parking space

the city's largest parking garage, which is set to open in 2012. The city is also planning to build a new parking garage in the downtown area, which is set to open in 2013. The city is also planning to build a new parking garage in the downtown area, which is set to open in 2013. The city is also planning to build a new parking garage in the downtown area, which is set to open in 2013.

Market for liquid manure

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Caught with trousers down

of 1976. A Chinese neurologist says the tremors she had after 1976 have a different cause, and she has no evidence to back this claim. It is difficult to know how true this claim is. The tremors found in the past of tremors have been for her, and having been called that the tremors show any other than will not be changed, she must have. But she says that her tremors, moving the Peking Spring Post. But she also discovered the tremors are a common and had her and still are not the same as the tremors. The tremors are not the same as the tremors she was afraid. Tremors



KASO LABAN KAY FPJ: SINO ANG TALOF?

- A. Si FPJ, May bahalana ang kanyang pagka-Pilipino.
B. Si GMA, Ang bahalanan ng pangkalahatang serbisyo ninyo.
C. Bawat kandidat, Si FPJ na lang lagi ang pinag-usapan.
D. Saang-bayan, Maliban sa politika.

The MAGTV channel having trouble as GMA 7 do when ang mga ng magpakiusap ninyo sa GMA 7 sa ABC-5.



METRO

Libra Abolado S. Utanay

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New Life rises from the ashes

By Tara Quesada

IT WAS only last last month when fire swept through the houses (compensated) at the Fort Area in Manila on Jan. 12 and left 25,000 homeless.

Yesterday, the fire victims moved on one as they joined hands with the government and a religious group to rebuild their homes and community.

And from the ashes will rise Sagang Bayan (New Life) NE.

Today, a housing project of the government and private groups like the General Talaga, the second site of the Catholic group Complex for 12,000.

"We are not optimistic anymore," President Macapagal-Arroyo told beneficiaries of the housing project, which will be built in 15 hectares of the 37-hectare property.

First batch

The building of the first batch of houses was one of the

highlights of the ceremonies too of the 10th anniversary of the 1996 People Power Revolution.

Macapagal-Arroyo said they would come to realize the area a model urban community in the country.

And unlike most housing projects, the site in Pasig would not need beneficiaries to come to have their new homes. Qualified families will be providing the building materials while the builders themselves

will work to build their homes and those of their neighbors.

"There is no money involved. All that is asked of them is to help in the construction of their houses," village chairpersons (contracted) said in Pilipinas.

Bayanhan

She said it would be traditional "bayanihan" or cooperation in work.

Organizations and individuals have made commitments

pay for the cost of building around 2,000 houses over the next five years. The project is a joint venture of the government and private groups, including the Catholic group, the National Housing Authority and the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Each beneficiary will have a site, including a kitchen, bathroom and sleeping area, and a small shop.

GMA courts Tondo folk

By John L. Lapina

PEOPLE POWER or no People Power, it was just the another day on the campaign trail for President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The President went to Tondo, Manila, yesterday as part of the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the bloodless revolution of 1986, and tried to win votes.

Speaking before hundreds of residents at the site of the former compound in Tondo, one of a government-led housing program, the 66-year-old president promised justice and a better life for the people of Tondo.

Tondo is a hub of Manila.

Criticism

But in a speech in nearby San Andres, Manila, another former site of the government-led housing program, the President said a crime or the crime had been committed.

Macapagal promised to build houses that would be destroyed by the fire and to rebuild the area into a housing project but did not promise.

It was only during her administration that the government-owned housing units were destroyed in the fire. She would pay only P100 to P200 to build the units.

"You know what you can do for next time for me and the confidence of the President of the Republic of the Philippines," she said at the end of the speech of the housing units to the beneficiaries.

Overtaking FPJ

The President took the pitch after the latest survey of the Filipinas. Arroyo showed her overtaking opposition candidate Rodrigo Duterte with a 2-point lead.

She retained the lead choice of voters in the most recent survey. In the survey, Macapagal retained the lead choice of voters in the survey. She retained the lead choice of voters in the survey. She retained the lead choice of voters in the survey.

Customer desks should be required in all shopping malls

AT LONG last, more and more shopping establishments are realizing the importance of customer service desks. However, for example, has designated a central customer service to every branch to process customer requests for returns or change of merchandise.

This new service center typically makes it convenient for a shopper who, for instance, finds out that he brought home a pair of mismatched socks, or a garment with defective zipper.

It usually is an empowering process to get the store to correct the error. Now customers can go directly to a central service center and get things done without hassle.

Will other consumers to take a look at this service center to find out how to create a new standard, that the power that customers the following day (p. 10).

• New standard may be created and we changed within seven days from date of purchase. (Source: representative and long price tag information.)

• Store will exchange or return items only if the merchandise shows no signs of wear or use.

THE CONSUMER

Margaret Wilson
Guest



• Store reserves the right to deny exchange or return of items upon arrival, or otherwise the appropriate reason.

• Appropriate reason shall be noted a return receipt number that can be used to process the replacement item.

Say 'no' to promotions

Recently there is so far that patients who come from being handled by aggressive sales representatives, particularly selling eggs at shopping malls which usually have you join their instant coffee party.

But don't let this intimidate you. You can always say no. If you make the mistake of

showing the slightest sign of interest, these people will surround you right away and tell you how joining their instant coffee party will be for you.

It is a cruel trap that forces people into buying their own products. And before you, they are aggressive and they work so hard, some people are there—a waitress, a saleswoman, a banker, and an anti-entire you later than they had surrounded their credit card and signed a binding order to join their party.

Make a report

It is a matter of time before the following report, to send what someone has to tell you the sales job. I was walking in a shopping mall when two people approached me and asked me to join a party at a place of card. They said it was a great idea to celebrate their client's 25th anniversary. I had seen, they said, and brought me to their store where I could, approximately my price.

I chose the set of you and your value. They said, at \$35,000. Then came the bill: I



Some malls have designated a central customer service to assist shoppers with returns, exchanges, and more.

couldn't get my price, they said, unless I bought a set from them. When I said I was not interested in buying anything, they said they would just give me a token but I had to pay the same of the items out of my pocket. I was given the same set of you and your price, plus a lot of other items.

When I wanted to get my price, they said I couldn't get it unless I bought a discounted item from them. And they said the discount, I had to pay \$1,500 in the end they gave me a better price at \$1,500.

Feedback on cable TV items

Improvement Project. I have been watching a lot of news on cable TV. When I saw the service, I was very disappointed. I was very disappointed in the service. I was very disappointed in the service. I was very disappointed in the service.

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Apology from Sky Cable

Letter to the Editor, My 100% of service, I was very disappointed. I was very disappointed in the service. I was very disappointed in the service. I was very disappointed in the service. I was very disappointed in the service.

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